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WILL OF WILLIAM BROADRIBB,

OF JAMES CITY CO., VA.*

In the name of God, Amen. I, William Broadribb, of James City County, in Virg^{a}, being in perfect Sound Sence & memory, all praise be given to Almighty God for the same, Considering with my self of the frailty of Mankind, the Certainty of Death & the uncertainty of the time when, do make this my last will & Testament, & first & principally above all earthly things, I Comitt my Soule to God who gave it, trusting and Assuredly believing, through the bitter Death and passion of my Lord & Savior Jesus Christ, I shall receive full pardon of & remission of all my Sins, & my Body to the Earth from Whence it come, to be buried in Christian like Manner.

First. It is my will & desire, & I do hereby appoint, that all my Just debts due by bill or Account be duly paid.

Item. I do give unto my Son Benj^{a} Brodribb, after the Death of my Loveing wife Lydia Brodribb, my plantacon whereon I now Live & the land bounded as followeth, beginning at ye mouth of the Spring branch before the Door & up the branch to ye devideing of it & from the fork of the s^{d} branch up the Middle of the point straight up to the Maine road & down the s^{d} Maine Road, till it meets with Wormley's line at Dickett of trees between the s^{d} Wormeley's old feild & mine by the Schoole house & downe that Same Line till it meet with the Line between Wm Baylys land & Mine & along that same Line till it Comes to powhatan Swamp & then up the said Swamp to the mouth of the s^{d} bra[nch], where it began (Excepting the land whereon the Schoole house now standeth with half an Acre of Land & fire wood of [mutilated] my Land I do give for the use of a Schoole for ever, I do give to my s^{d} Son Benj^{a} my plantacon & lands as aboves^{d} (Except what is before Excepted) to him & the heires of his Body Lawfully begotten for Ever.

Item. I doe give unto my Son Wm Broadribb at ye age of Eighteen years all the land whereon Lawrence Usher now liveth bounded according to the s^{d} Lawrence's lease & more then the s^{d}

* Copied from the Ambler MSS. in Congressional Library.

Larence holds, I give to my s^{d} Son William all my land between the road that leads between Coll^{o} Ludwell's Mill & Powhatan Mill, all ye Land between that Road & ye Line between Mr Benj^{a} Egglestone's land & Mine (Excepting one acre of Land for the use of the Mill to him & the heires of his body Lawfully begotten for ever.)

Item. I do give unto my Son Abraham Broadribb, at the Age of Eighteen years, all my land beyond the Maine road & all that I have beyond the Drinking Swamp branch Exprest in my Patent, all but what is already disposed of, to him & the heirs of his Body Lawfully begotten for ever.

Item. I do give unto my Son Thomas Broadribb, at ye Age of Eighteen years, all my land lying between the bounds of my son Benjamin's land & the bounds of my Son W^{ms} land abovesaid comonly called Pursers Hill, to him & the heires of his Body Lawfully begotten for Ever.

Item. I do appoint, Impower & desire my three Loveing friends, Mr Wm Drumond, Cap^{tn} George Marable & M^{r}. Benj. Eggleston, or either two of them, with my Loveing wife, trustees to sell & dispose of my Land & plantacon whereon Emanuell Dees now liveth, & the produce of it I bequeath Equally between my Son Thomas Broadribb & my two daughters to-wit Susan & Lydia, leting the s^{d} Dees Continue his time on it as by Indenture of Lease may appear.

Item. I do give my Mill & an Acre of Land to be Equally devided amongst all my Children (as they Attaine to the age of Eighteen years) (vizt) to Benj^{a} Broadribb, Will Broadribb, Abraham Broadribb, Susan Broadribb, Thomas Broadribb & Lydia Broadribb & Considering the many Shares in the s^{d} Mill & for fear of their disagreeing, I do appoint my two sons (Benj^{a} & William) who will be both of age before M^{r}. John Tullit his Lease of the s^{d} Mill be Expired that if they think it best when M^{r}. Tullits lease be out, I do appoint them or the Survivo^{r} of them if one should dye to Sell the said Mill & the produce of the s^{d} Mill I do give to be Equally devided amongst all my before named Six Children.

Item. I do give all my Personall Estate to be Equally devided amongst my Loveing wife Lydia Broadrib & all my aboves^{d} Six Children.

Lastly, I do Constitute and appoint my Loveing wife Lydia Broadribb whole & Sole Executrix of this my last will and testament, to all wch I set my hand & seale this third day of May, 1703. WILL BROADRIBB.[1] (*Seal.*)

Sealed & signed In presence of

Lawrence Usher,	John Spratley,
his	*her*
William W. Wager,	Eliz: E. Spratley.
mark.	*mark.*

At a court held for James City county, the 7th day of June, 1703.

This will was this day proved in court by the [mutilated] Lawrence Usher & Wm Waiger two of the witnesses, and admitted to record. Test, C. C. Thacker, Cl. Cur. Copia Test, C. C. Thacker, Cl. Cor.

Endorsed: Broadribb's Will.

REBELLION TO TYRANTS IS OBEDIENCE TO GOD.

(See QUARTERLY, XIII., 192–194.)

Dr. A. A. Folsom sends the following clipping from the New York *Sun,* April 9, 1905. He writes, "By the above it seems that Jefferson did see the aphorism before he wrote the Declaration."

"Who is the author of the aphorism so frequently quoted, 'Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God,' and under what circumstances was the sentiment delivered? KENT."

"Not quite correct in the citation, 'Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God' is the form having authority. In the *Memoirs of Thomas Hollis* (London, 1780) it is stated that in many American homes was displayed the epitaph of John Bradshaw, the regicide. Hollis says that the epitaph is engraved upon a cannon at the summit of a steep hill near Martha Bray, Jamaica, where lie buried the remains of Bradshaw. The epitaph, which must have

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[1] The chief interest in this will consists in its affording proof of a school in James City county. William Broadribb's widow, Lydia, married, secondly, Christopher Smith, Clerk of Jamestown Church, and teacher of the Indian children at the College of William and Mary in 1706.